

Jasper County Animal Control Board
Public Meeting

January 8, 2018

Board President, Del Cleek called the meeting to order at approximately 6:01 P.M. at the Rensselaer Branch of the Jasper County Library. Board members in attendance were: Del Cleek, Janice Mallory, Marissha Mathews, Jerry Furst, Nancy Shull, Dee Vanderwall, and Shelter Director, Mark Sinclair. Two citizens were in attendance.

The minutes of the November 13, 2017 and December 11, 2017 meetings had been e-mailed. Nancy moved to approve the November minutes as presented, Jerry seconded and the minutes were approved. Marissha moved to approve the minutes of the December meeting and Nancy seconded and the minutes were approved.

Shelter Director, Mark Sinclair stated that month end reports had been e-mailed. In December the shelter took in twenty-one dogs and ten cats. Adopted out nine dogs and eight cats. Ten dogs were reclaimed. There have been a lot of dogs. A rescue just took four of our dogs-two Pits and two Beagles that were heart worm positive. There were thirty-nine ACO calls responded to. There were twenty-six volunteer hours.

The DEA inspector appeared in December. The shelter passed inspection. An organization has been formed called HALO=Hoosier Animal Law Officers. The thought behind it is to push for more animal control training in Indiana. A lobbying and training organization. Just got the Facebook Page up.

Mark stated that the year-end statistics were also e-mailed and includes a comparison of past years. For instance there were 503 intakes last year compared to 450 the previous year. Adoptions to citizens are up and animals out to rescues are down. Discussion ensued. The euthanasia rate is calculated by how many were euthanized that were adoptable. 2017 rate was only 3.8%. Jan stated that part of animal control is about being humane and that may mean putting down a sick or injured animals.

Mark pointed out the donation fund since 2011 and Del commented that is the donation fund we can't use according to the council. It is over \$20,000.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Jan mentioned that she had a client over the holidays that brought in a stray cat for a rabies vaccination because they had fed it for three days and the shelter couldn't take it. Mark was asked how the shelter determines the three day rule. Holidays are not included in the three day count usually. This is not a written policy but care and control according to the State is three days. The issue is lack of room at the shelter. Mark stated that citizens often comment that other shelters have the same policy. Jan stated that bigger facilities like South Bend are able to take any stray and do so just to get them off the street. But they are much bigger and have a vet on staff.

Del suggested more research on policies about care and control. Jan pointed out that if the shelter picks up a stray the adoptee pays for the shots. Mark stated that if they get a call about a stray, they encourage the person to put it on Facebook and see if they can find the owner or an owner. Most cases is that it belongs to the neighbors. Discussion ensued regarding the prosecuting attorney and shelter citations. Mark stated that the court date for the shelter is always the first Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Discussion ensued about the shelter being under the sheriff and citations would have more meat to them and would appear through the sheriff's system.

Other Business

Marissha reported to the Board that due to some personal issues the Board may be approached about Marissha's seat on the Board and request her removal. The Board cannot remove a member. The Commissioners appoint the members. Marissha offered to resign her seat so that her issues do not become shelter issues. The members of the Board assured Marissha that they believe her to be a good advocate for the shelter and animals in general and would not accept her resignation at this time. Marissha was thanked for her work with the shelter and on the Board.

Citizen Comment Time

Citizens in attendance were there to support Marissha.

With no further business, Del asked for a motion to adjourn. Nan moved to adjourn and Jan seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Next meeting will be held February 12, 2018 @ 6 p.m.

Submitted by:

Del Cleek, Board President